

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LOCAL PROSECUTOR ESTABLISHMENT ACT OF 2017

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the District of Columbia Local Prosecutor Establishment Act of 2017, to give District of Columbia residents another element of the self-government enjoyed by all other American citizens, including those in the U.S. territories. The bill would establish a local prosecutor's office designated under local law to prosecute all local crimes in the District. Under federal law, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, a federal entity, is responsible for prosecuting most local crimes committed by adults here, which is the greater part of its caseload, in addition to prosecuting federal crimes. This bill is special because it effectuates a 2002 advisory referendum, approved by 82 percent of D.C. voters, to create a local prosecutor's office.

There is no law enforcement issue of greater importance to D.C. residents on which they have less say than the prosecution of local crimes here. A U.S. Attorney has no business prosecuting the local crimes of a jurisdiction, an anachronism that is out of place in any, American self-governing jurisdiction. In fact, the territories of the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands, all have local prosecutors to prosecute local crimes. The absence of a local D.C. prosecutor is one more anachronism from the pre-home rule days when D.C. had no local government. The goal of this bill is to give the District the same jurisdiction over the criminal justice matters that state, local, and territorial jurisdictions justifiably regard as mandatory.

Amending federal law to create a local prosecutor would be an important step toward our goal of achieving true self-government. I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes because I was asked to give a eulogy for a leading Councilwoman and State Senator, who had been a dear friend and mentor. It was a significant tribute and event in my district and for my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 138, NAY on Roll Call No. 139, YEA on Roll Call No. 140, YEA on Roll Call No. 141, YEA on Roll Call No. 142, YEA on Roll

Call No. 143, YEA on Roll Call No. 144, YEA on Roll Call No. 145, YEA on Roll Call No. 146, YEA on Roll Call No. 147, NAY on Roll Call No. 148, YEA on Roll Call No. 149, YEA on Roll Call No. 150, YEA on Roll Call No. 151, NAY on Roll Call No. 152, YEA on Roll Call No. 153, YEA on Roll Call No. 154, YEA on Roll Call No. 155, YEA on Roll Call No. 156, YEA on Roll Call No. 157, and NAY on Roll Call No. 158.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 9, and Friday, March 10, I was unable to be present for recorded votes.

On March 9, had I been present, I would have voted the following on amendments to H.R. 985, the Fairness in Class Action Litigation and Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency Act of 2017: No on roll call no. 140, the Deutch Amendment, No on roll call no. 141, the Deutch Amendment, No on roll call no. 142, Soto amendment, No on roll call no. 143, the Johnson Amendment, No on roll call no. 144, the Conyers amendment, No on roll call no. 145, the Jackson Lee Amendment, No on roll call no. 146, the Espallat Amendment, and No on roll call no. 147, the Democratic Motion to Recommit. I would have voted Yes on roll call no. 148, final passage of H.R. 985, the Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act. I would have voted the following on amendments to H.R. 725, the Innocent Party Protection Act: No on roll call no. 149, the Soto Amendment, No on roll call no. 150, the Cartwright Amendment, No on roll call no. 151, the Democratic Motion to Recommit. I would have voted Yes on roll call no. 152, final passage of H.R. 725, the Innocent Party Protection Act.

On March 10, had I been present, I would have voted the following on amendments to H.R. 720, the Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act: No on roll call no. 153, the Soto Amendment, No on roll call no. 154, the Jackson Lee amendment, No on roll call no. 155, the Conyers Amendment, No on roll call no. 156, the Jeffries Amendment, and No on roll call no. 157, the Democratic Motion to Recommit. I would have voted Yes on roll call no. 158, final passage of H.R. 720, the Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act.

IN MEMORY OF SAM HOUSTON, IV

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a loving husband, father, and grandfather, Sam Houston, IV was a blessing to Texas, not just be-

cause of who his great-grandfather was, but because of his passion for Texas history.

Born on September 25, 1931, in Claremore, Oklahoma to Sam Houston, III and Ruth Helen Nilson, Sam Houston, IV was the great grandson of General Sam Houston. He was one of Texas' founding fathers whose statue stands in the National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol, and whose bust is displayed in the historic Ways and Means Conference Room in the Capitol as well. Sam Houston, IV shared his ties to Texas history with all who would listen. A frequent speaker at annual San Jacinto Day celebrations, Sam brought history to life.

He enjoyed sharing his love of Texas history and his special connection to the founding of the Texas Republic with children, school groups, civic and other organizations. His great-grandfather, who once said about Texas that "no country upon the globe can compare with it in natural advantages," would have been proud of his great grandson.

A salesman with U.S. Steel for many years, Sam attended Schreiner Military Academy and Allen Academy in Texas. He also attended St. Michael's College in New Mexico before earning his BA in history at the University of Houston.

Always a patriot, Sam served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and led an infantry platoon. After active service, he served an additional 16 years in the Army Reserves, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

He was appointed to the Bi-centennial Commission of the U.S. Constitution and served on the Sesquicentennial Commission of the Republic of Texas celebration. He served as President General of the Sons of the Republic of Texas and was Knight Commander of the Knights of San Jacinto. He is one of nine men in the over one-hundred year history of the Sons of the Republic of Texas to have been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award.

He was commissioned as Commanding General of The Texas Army on April 20, 2010 by Governor Perry. On February 23, 2011, he was awarded the George Washington Award by the Paul Carrington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Houston, Texas.

Sam would carry his weighty name with pride as he spoke to tens of thousands of schoolchildren about Texas history. He also appeared in the EMMY Award winning documentary, Sam Houston: American Statesman, Soldier, and Pioneer, that will live on for generations to come.

For the past several decades, he called the Houston area his home. Sam and his wife, Virginia Rose, were blessed with three children, Vicky, Steven, and Kevin, three grandchildren, Sherry, Bridgett and Scott, and seven great-grandchildren, Jessica, Chelsea, Patrick, Mackenzie, Nicole, Sophia and Dylan. Sam is also survived by his brother, Temple.

On March 10, 2017, Sam passed away at the age of 85 and will be sorely missed.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ORGANIC ACT OF GUAM REFORM ACT OF 2017

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Organic Act of Guam to prohibit salary changes for the Governor of Guam, the Lieutenant Governor of Guam, and Senators of the Guam Legislature until after a general election of the Legislature has passed. During last year's election, the people of Guam made clear that they disapproved of salary changes made in previous years for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of our Legislature, and my bill would ensure that any changes to the salaries of our local elected officials are appropriately deliberated and considered consistent with how Congress handles these matters.

The Organic Act of Guam establishes the framework of the Government of Guam but it is silent on provisions regarding changes in salary for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or members of the local Guam Legislature. Changes can be made and implemented at anytime simply by changing local law, and this has caused division in our community. Over the past several years, local policymakers and the people of Guam have debated pay increases that were proposed and instituted shortly after the 2014 general election. While I believe that these issues are up to local policymakers, and ultimately the people of Guam to decide, the Organic Act should provide safeguards regarding salaries for these elected officials that will prevent divisiveness in our community. The bill that I am introducing today would prevent the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Senators from increasing their salaries until after an intervening election of the Legislature has occurred. This is similar to the 27th Amendment to the Constitution that prohibits Members of Congress from increasing their pay until after an intervening election, and it is consistent with a request made by the Guam Legislature for me to introduce an amendment to the Organic Act for this purpose.

This bill is a step towards improving accountability for elected officials in Guam and is consistent with public opinion in Guam and the views expressed by the Guam Legislature. I encourage its adoption and urge my colleague to pass this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHRIS STEWART WINNING HIS THIRD CONSECUTIVE SCHOOL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Langley School's very own, Chris Stewart, on winning the school-wide National Geographic Bee for the third consecutive year and for advancing to the statewide competition. Chris, an eighth grader attending the Langley School in McLean, advanced to

the school-wide Bee sponsored by the National Geographic Society after scoring the highest in a preliminary qualifying test earlier this year. His impressive achievement is not only a testament to his hard work and dedication, but also the exemplary teachers and faculty at the Langley School who helped cultivate Chris's intellectual intrigue.

At the beginning of every school year, the National Geographic Bee begins at the local level, then advances to the state and eventually national levels through a series of oral and written geography exams with questions ranging from the locations of mountain ranges and rivers to the names of cities and countries. Chris not only displayed his impressive knowledge of world geography, but also showed great confidence and poise, as he and his peers competed on stage in front of the entire school. As Langley School's winner, Chris will move on to compete at the state level, with a chance to eventually compete for a college scholarship at the national competition in May.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Chris Stewart for winning the Langley School's Geographic Bee for the third consecutive year. This achievement shows his dedication to his education and studies, and he is fully deserving of this recognition. It is a privilege to represent him, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING PASTOR GILLETTE O. JAMES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great religious, spiritual, and civic leader, Pastor Gillette James, of Beth Eden Baptist Church as he retires after more than 46 years of faithful service to his community.

Pastor James graduated from the University of San Francisco with Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees, and completed additional studies at Oxford University in England.

Pastor James joined the Beth Eden community in 1970 as an Assistant Pastor. Then only a year later, he accepted the call to lead the congregation of Beth Eden Baptist Church after the retirement of Pastor A.C. Dones. Under his strong leadership, the church built fifty-four units of senior housing and purchased other rental housing units for the community. Beth Eden also built a new sanctuary and administrative wing, and hired an architect for a new Family Life Center that is under development, vastly increasing the resources offered to the community of West Oakland.

Pastor James is truly an inspiration to other aspiring clergy, helping forty two other members complete coursework at accredited seminaries during his tenure, and twelve of those received advanced degrees. His leadership has been invaluable to those who have worked under his guidance to achieve their dreams of becoming ministers themselves.

Pastor James has also been a strong advocate for the role of women in church leadership positions. At one point, he was ousted from the California State Baptist Convention for his strong stance for women's involvement in the ministry. He has since been restored in

the Convention, and they heeded his direction to keep churches that fully recognize women clergy. Pastor James' commitment to the rights of women in leadership positions has never wavered, and I am sure owes much to the example of his wonderful wife, the late Dr. Rosa James.

Additionally, Pastor James has emphasized education as a key area of importance in his service to Beth Eden's community. Beth Eden's Scholarship Committee awards scholarships to high school graduates and college students to ensure that the youth of Oakland remain engaged and committed to their education.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I take great pride in joining the Beth Eden community to salute the extraordinary Gillette O. James as he retires as Pastor of Beth Eden Baptist Church, and wish him many years of joyful retirement.

RECOGNIZING JOHN NARIGI

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John V. Narigi for being named the 2016 Citizen of the Year by the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and to recognize Mr. Narigi's leadership in our community on the Central Coast.

Mr. Narigi is a native of Gig Harbor, Washington and graduated from Gonzaga University. In 1993, Mr. Narigi made a permanent move from Washington to the Monterey Peninsula. Since his move, Mr. Narigi has played an important role in leading the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa's executive team. Among his many other accomplishments, Mr. Narigi has served as President and remained an active board member for the Monterey County Hospitality Association and has served on the Monterey Commercial Property Owners Association, the Cannery Row Business Association, the Monterey Bay Issues and Candidates Political Action Committee, and the Coalition of Peninsula Businesses.

He has proven himself to be a natural leader by transforming and raising the profile of local organizations that have improved the lives of residents and visitors alike. Mr. Narigi has dedicated his life's work to improving nonprofits, local small businesses, Monterey County leadership boards, and youth sports.

Mr. Narigi served as the Chairman of the Board for Rancho Cielo, a community organization dedicated to helping underserved youth in Monterey County become self-sufficient through vocational training and education. His commitment to the work done at Rancho Cielo is a testament to how much he cares about his community and making sure that our young people have opportunities to succeed.

As someone who has dedicated a lifetime to public service, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Narigi's tireless involvement on the Central Coast. Mr. Narigi's commitment to improving the well-being of our community is an inspiration to us all.